

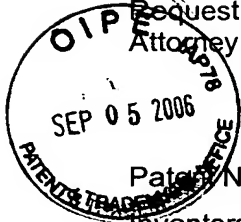
101649332

cofc

Patent No. 7,059,109

Request for Cert. of Correction dated August 30, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 0388-031645



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. : 7,059,109 Confirmation No. 4587
 Inventors : Samejima et al.
 Issued : June 13, 2006
 Title : Mid-Mount Mower Having A Mower Unit Disposed
 Between A Front Wheel Unit And A Pair Of Right And
 Left Rear Wheels Arranged Rearwardly
 Of A Vehicle Body To Be Independently Shiftable
 Examiner : Alicia Torres
 Customer No. : 28289

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: Decision and Certificate of Correction
 Branch of the Patent Issue Division

Sir:

In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§254 and 255, we attach hereto Form PTO/SB/44 and a copy of proof of errors and request that a Certificate of Correction be issued in the above-identified patent. The following errors appear in the patent as printed:

- (1) Title Page, , See Item 56, References Cited, add the following:
 -- FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 2000-3150330 01/2004 Kubota Corp. --

(See the Information Disclosure Statement mailed March 4, 2004 and initialed by the Examiner on November 18, 2004. The Examiner initialed the U.S. Patent Document, but failed to initial the Foreign Patent Document.)

- (2) Column 6, Line 44, Claim 1, "gate-shaped_to" should read -- gate-shaped to --
 (See Amendment After Final dated November 8, 2005, page 3, line 2 of Claim 4. Claim 4 issued as Claim 1.)

Error No. (2) is an obvious typographical error made by Applicants. A check for \$100.00 is attached to cover the fee for correction of Applicants' mistake. The remaining error is a printing error.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By Russell D. Orkin 03/06/2006 TBESHAH2 00000017 7059109
 01 FC:1010 100.00 OP

Russell D. Orkin
 Registration No. 25,363
 Attorney for Registrants
 700 Koppers Building
 436 Seventh Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219
 Telephone: (412) 471-8815
 Facsimile: (412) 471-4094

SEP 08 2006

Certificate
 SEP 08 2006
 of Correction

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,059,109
APPLICATION NO. : 10/649,332
ISSUE DATE : June 13, 2006
INVENTORS : Samejima et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Face of the Patent, See Item 56, References Cited, add the following:

-- FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 2000-3150330 01/2004 Kubota Corp. --

Column 6, Line 44, Claim 1, "gate-shaped_to" should read -- gate-shaped to --

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: The Webb Law Firm
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1845

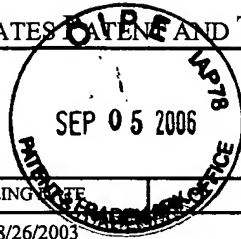
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-2450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select Option 2.

SEP 08 2008



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/649,332	08/26/2003	Kazuo Samejima	0388-031645	4587

28289 7590 12/15/2004

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.
700 KOPPERS BUILDING
436 SEVENTH AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

EXAMINER

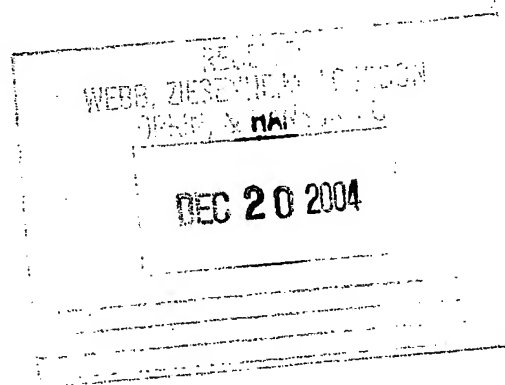
TORRES, ALICIA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3671

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



SEP 06

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/649,332

Applicant(s)

SAMEJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Alicia M Torres

Art Unit

3671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

SEP 08 2003

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/4/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Approved for use through 10/31/2001. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
respond to a collection of information relating to

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<div> <div>Complete if Known</div> <div> <div>Application Number</div> <div>10/649,332</div> </div> <div> <div>Filing Date</div> <div>August 26, 2003</div> </div> <div> <div>First Named Inventor</div> <div>Kazuo Samejima et al.</div> </div> <div> <div>Group Art Unit</div> <div>3671</div> </div> <div> <div>Examiner Name</div> <div>Not Yet Assigned</div> </div> <div> <div>Attorney Docket Number</div> <div>388-031645</div> </div> </div>	
<div> <div>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</div> <div>(use as many sheets as necessary)</div> </div>					
Sheet	1	Of	1		

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature	<i>Alicia Lora</i>	Date Considered	11/18/04
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPBP 600. Do not line through.

Examiner's Name <i>Christine Lopez</i>	Considered <i>11/18/67</i>
---	-------------------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231.

{W0108592.1}

08 4000

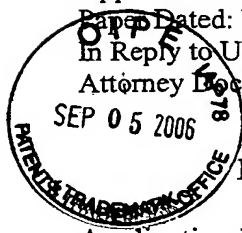
Application No. 10/649,332

Customer No. 28289

Paper Dated: November 8, 2005

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of August 9, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 0388-031645



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/649,332

Applicant : Kazuo SAMEJIMA et al.

Filed : August 26, 2003

Title : MID-MOUNT MOWER HAVING A MOWER UNIT
DISPOSED BETWEEN A FRONT WHEEL UNIT
AND A PAIR OF RIGHT AND LEFT REAR
WHEELS ARRANGED REARWARDLY OF A
VEHICLE BODY TO BE INDEPENDENTLY
SHIFTABLE

Group Art Unit : 3671

Confirmation No. : 4587

Examiner : Alicia M. Torres

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of August 9, 2005, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 8, 2005.

Chris P. Craig
(Name of Registered Representative)

Chris P. Craig
Signature

11/8/2005
Date

{W0227277.1}

SEP 08 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A mid-mount mower as defined in claim 1, wherein said upwardly protruding portion of the mower unit is a gear case protrusively mounted on a mower deck.

3. (Currently Amended) A mid-mount mower as defined in claim 1, wherein said upwardly protruding portion of the mower unit is a universal joint connecting an input shaft of the mower unit to a drive transmission shaft.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A mid-mount mower as defined in claim 1, A mid-mount mower having a mower unit mounted between a front wheel unit and a pair of right and left rear wheels arranged rearwardly of a vehicle body to be independently speed-shiftable, comprising:~~

a front frame unit including a pair of right and left front longitudinal frames, a first cross frame interconnecting said front longitudinal frames in forward positions thereof longitudinally of the vehicle body, and a second cross frame interconnecting said front longitudinal frames in rearward positions thereof longitudinally of the vehicle body, said front frame unit supporting said front wheel unit and also supporting a lift mechanism for vertically movably suspending the mower unit;

a rear frame unit including a pair of right and left rear longitudinal frames, said rear frame unit being connected to said front frame unit; and

a rear wheel drive unit interconnecting said rear longitudinal frames;

wherein said second cross frame has a mid-portion that defines a downwardly opening recess, said recess allowing entry thereto of an upwardly protruding portion of said mower unit without interference when said mower unit is raised by said lift mechanism, and

wherein said second cross frame includes a first profile member having said mid-portion that is ~~gate-shaped~~ to define the recess and horizontal plate portions connected respectively to lower ends of said gate-shaped mid-portion, and a vertical plate member connected to a rear end surface of said first profile member.

④ 5. (Previously Presented) A mid-mount mower as defined in claim 4, wherein said horizontal plate portions are arranged to receive rear ends of a footboard sheet member disposed as sunken between said right and left front longitudinal frames, and said vertical plate member having an upper end thereof supporting a pivotal axis of a driver's seat.

⑤ 6. (Currently Amended) A mid-mount mower as defined in claim 4, wherein said second cross frame includes ~~a first profile member having a gate shape portion defining a recess and horizontal plate portions connected respectively to lower ends of said gate shape portion, a tilted vertical plate member connected to a rear end surface of said first profile member,~~ a rear wall member connected to a rear end of the tilted vertical plate member to define therewith an internal space extending transversely of the vehicle body, and side plates for covering the internal space from lateral directions.

⑥ 7. (Previously Presented) A mid-mount mower having a mower unit mounted between a front wheel unit and a pair of right and left rear wheels arranged rearwardly of a vehicle body to be independently speed-shiftable, comprising:

a front frame unit including a pair of right and left front longitudinal frames, a first cross frame interconnecting said front longitudinal frames in forward positions thereof longitudinally of the vehicle body, and a second cross frame interconnecting said front longitudinal frames in rearward positions thereof longitudinally of the vehicle body, said front frame unit supporting said front wheel unit and also supporting a lift mechanism for vertically movably suspending the mower unit;

a rear frame unit including a pair of right and left rear longitudinal frames, said rear frame unit being connected to said front frame unit; and

a rear wheel drive unit interconnecting said rear longitudinal frames;